



## Superbowl XL brings guests to Victory

Story by Spc. James P. Hunter

MNC-I PAO

The U.S. Army Super Sunday Tour stopped to visit with troops at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center on Camp Liberty Monday.

Celebrating Super Bowl XL, NFL legends Keith Byars, Bryan Cox, Christian Okoye, Nick Lowery and former Dallas Cowboys and San Francisco Forty-Niners cheerleader Bonnie-Jill Laflin signed autographs and had their pictures taken with the troops.

The tour began Thursday with stops at Al Asad, Talil, Aditha, Speicher and Remagen, ending with their final stop in Baghdad.

For Bonnie-Jill Laflin, current Los Angeles Lakers sports broadcaster, the tour was about bringing support and a bit of America to the troops.

"It's one of those experiences I never want to forget," she said.

"You guys are the heroes fighting for our country," Laflin continued. "Regardless if (people) are for or against the war (they) need to support the troops."

Bryan Cox, who spent 13 years in the NFL, said it was important for him to spend time with the troops though there are danger and risk factors.

"I've never had anyone in my immediate family serve this country," Cox said. "I felt like this was an opportunity for (me) to see what this country was all about."

"Whether you believe in the war or not it's not the important thing," he continued. "It's about supporting the people who put their lives on the line so we can be the freest country in the world." Taking time from commanding Multi National Division-Baghdad, Maj. Gen. J.D.

Thurman, commanding general, 4th Infantry Division, and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Riling, command sergeant major, 4th I.D., stopped in to speak with the



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Brian J. Anderson

**Keith Byars, former all-pro running back, New York Jets, and Brian Cox, 3-time probowler, New Orleans Saints, stare in amazement at a photo taken on Sept. 11, 2001. The retired football stars toured Camp Victory on Tuesday as part of the U.S. Army Super Sunday Tour.**

Soldiers and guests.

Thurman thanked them for taking time out of their schedule to be with the Soldiers.

"There is nothing more important than a Soldier," he said. "You all coming out here means a lot to us. Especially for our troops that are over here doing the nations work."

"If we don't get this right and stop Al-Qaeda and the terrorists they're going to be knocking on their doors and the last thing I want to see is my grandkids having to deal with that," Thurman continued. "I want to see them have the same freedoms so we can go watch football games. I'm a big football fan."

It meant a lot to Pfc. Michael Stahnke, human resource specialist, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 589th Personnel Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, for the football players and Laflin to visit them in the combat environment.

When he was younger, Stahnke and his cousin played video football game and always used Christian Okoye because he was unstoppable, he said. He was glad that he finally got the opportunity to meet

him.

With the players exhausted, and the tour ending in Baghdad, Cox said, "When you see these people who put their lives on the line and do all the things they do for freedom you find energy somewhere."

American Soldiers play a positive role in society, Cox said. They deserve and need the support of the American people.

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# 311 Quartermaster understands the value of life

Story by Pfc. Sean C. Finch

MNC-I PAO

For most Soldiers stationed in Iraq, a busy day means that the day goes faster, but for soldiers working at the mortuary affairs collection point, Baghdad International Airport, a busy day serves as a reminder that everyone is human, fragile and cannot be taken for granted. The Soldiers from the Army Reserve's 311th Quartermaster Company, Puerto Rico, serve a job description that truly identifies the harsh realities of war.

"A slow day is a good day for everyone," said Sgt. Jorge Santiago, 311th Quartermaster Company, Mortuary Affairs noncommissioned officer in charge.

"Our job is thankless, but at the same time, it is good to know that we can give these fallen comrades the greatest respect possible," he said.

Their job is to prepare the remains of fallen heroes for transportation to their final destination, and process their personal effects prior to sending them home.

When a vehicle brings in remains, their process begins. They have the responsibility to check the remains and chart every detail. Every detail is marked on a form, from tattoos to birth marks, to every wound suffered. Their job is not to identify the remains but rather to prepare them for identification.

"The deceased casualties in this area fly from Baghdad International airport, so a day where we aren't busy, is a good day for everyone serving here," he said.

"I have gotten to the point where I see my job as an honor, to the person and their family," he said.

"The hardest days for us are when we see people from where we are from," said Spc. Luis Rodriguez of Caborojo, Puerto Rico.

"While our job may seem depressing to some people, you must remember that what we are doing is giving the ultimate respect and honor to our real heroes. We send home those who have given the greatest sacrifice," he said.

All the Soldiers from the unit agree that when they find pictures of babies and families on the remains, it is very tough for them to continue, but that's what they are here for. "We have to make sure that everyone is treated with the amount of reverence they deserve," he said.

"Some days, we don't get anyone, and that's great, but we have had days where we get more than 10 remains all at once, and it really goes to show you that we are at war," said Spc. D'Ladio Torres.

Once everything is in order, the final stage in the process is the ceremony to put the remains on the airplane.

"It is tough to be away from home anyway, but the job we do, makes us realize that we may never get there, and that makes it so much more difficult," said Spc. Luis Quinones of Penulas, Puerto Rico.

Despite the challenges associated with this type of job, they remember the importance of what they are doing and why they are doing it.

They are not just doing it for the Soldier that made the ultimate sacrifice, but for the families of those Soldiers who wait for their loved ones back home.

"Honor. That is what my job is about, giving my best for those who gave their all," he said.

**DRIVE SAFELY !!**

This driver was wearing his seat belt, driving within the speed limit and he was in his proper lane.



The driver of this vehicle had his life tragically altered by a reckless driver.

**Don't be the OTHER driver!!**

## Camp Victory Three-day forecast

### Tuesday



Partly Cloudy  
High: 67 F  
Low: 53 F

### Wednesday



Showers  
High: 64 F  
Low: 54 F

### Thursday



Morning Showers  
High: 62 F  
Low: 46 F



## Chaplain's Corner

### Bracing the Valentine Day Blues

Valentine's Day started in the time of the Roman Empire. In ancient Rome, February 14th was a holiday to honor Juno. Juno was the Queen of the Roman Gods and Goddesses. The Romans also knew her as the Goddess of women and marriage. The following day, February 15th, began the Feast of Lupercalia. The lives of young boys and girls were strictly separate. However, one of the customs of the young people was name drawing. On the eve of the festival of Lupercalia the names of Roman girls were written on slips of paper and placed into jars. Each young man would draw a girl's name from the jar and would then be partners for the duration of the festival with the girl whom he chose. Sometimes the pairing of the children lasted an entire year, and often, they would fall in love and would later marry.

Valentine's Day is right around the corner and your immediate thought is, "what am I going to do when I am so far away?" Iraq is the last place that you'd rather be during such a romantic day as Valentine's Day. I know. I understand what you are feeling. I love my wife and I'd rather be in her arms in the worst place on earth on that day, than be in the best place on earth and apart. Well, so far, I am not doing a good job motivating anyone, right? Right. I just wanted you to know that the writer understands how you feel. I am there with you. My wife and I have been married eight years coming this May and this is our second Valentine's Day apart. If you are like us, we have a tradition that we get a sitter and go out on a splendid date. Upon our return, we put the kids to sleep and get ready for some rest and relaxation. Well, there are many years that we could not specifically celebrate Valentine's Day on the 14th of February, such as this coming season. I have just the perfect plan. If it all works out, I know just what I am going to do. I am going to first of all, wait. See, that is all that I can do for now. Some fortunate souls will get to come home for R&R, but only a handful. What can the rest of us do? Start planning for when we get to take R&R. You see, Valentine's Day is one day but the spirit of Valentine is eternal.

It's the unquenchable spirit of love. It has existed and will exist forever because it is from God. What is love then? "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails" (I Corinthians 13:4-8). What can you do then to show your affection so far away? Well, you can borrow the words of Solomon in Song of Songs and say them on that day and don't forget to send some flowers.

"Your lips are like a scarlet ribbon;  
your mouth is lovely.  
Your temples behind your veil  
are like the halves of a pomegranate.

4 Your neck is like the tower of David,  
built with elegance;  
on it hang a thousand shields,  
all of them shields of warriors."

## 76th Army Band

U.S. Army photos by SPC Bryan Myhr



Staff Sgt. Pursel and Spc. Fattal play at the first performance of the V Corps Band Dixie Band called "Sergeant Pursel's Nitty Gritty Mud Band". Soldiers performed Dixie style music at the food court area here Jan. 27, 2006.



Sgt. Terrel Henckel plays lead guitar at the first performance of the V Corps Band's premiere ensemble "Article 15" on Jan. 29 2006 at 4th Infantry Division's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center, Camp Liberty. The Soldiers covered songs from Outkast to Jimi Hendrix.

## Operating hours

### Coalition Cafe

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m.  
Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

### Sports Oasis

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Dinner 5:30 - 9 p.m.

### Shopette

Open 24 Hours

### Camp Liberty Post Exchange

Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

### Fitness Center

Open 24 Hours

### Chapel (Bldg. 31)

#### Sunday:

Protestant Service 7 and 8:45 a.m.  
Catholic Mass 10:30 a.m.  
Gospel Service Noon  
Mormon (LDS) 2 p.m.  
Episcopal 4 p.m.  
Full Life Service 6 p.m.

#### Saturday:

7th Day Adventist 11 a.m.  
Catholic Mass 8 p.m.  
Mini-Chapel (Bldg. 2)

#### Friday:

Jewish Service 6:30 p.m.  
Eastern Orthodox services:

#### Saturday:

Vespers 5 p.m.  
Confession 5:30 p.m.  
Bible Study 7 p.m.

#### Sunday:

Divine Liturgy 9 a.m.

### Post Office

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.

### Golby Troop Medical Clinic

#### Sick Call Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon  
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

#### Dental Sick Call:

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.

#### Mental Health Clinic:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

#### Post Deployment Health Briefings:

Monday - Friday 1 p.m.

#### Pharmacy:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon  
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## 10K FUN RUN/WALK




**MWR AREA 51**  
Feb. 19 2006  
Show Time 6:30 am  
Start Time 7:00 am

**Free "T" shirt for the first 200 to complete the run**  
Sponsored by PROUDARMYPARENTS  
Hosted by Sgt. 1st Class Rumph 822-5115  
Task Force 30th Medical Brigade Equal Opportunities Adviser

You could loose your hand with three of a kind...



or your life. Don't set patterns.



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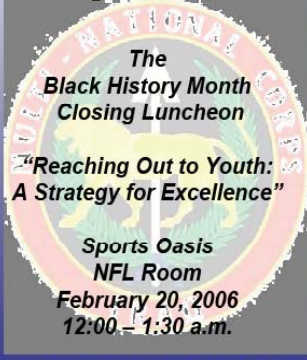
### Freedom Radio



Al Asad	107.3 FM	Kirkush	107.3 FM
Ali Base	107.3 FM	Mosul	105.1 FM
Ar Ramadi	107.3 FM	Q-West	103.3 FM
Baghdad	107.7 FM	Taj	107.3 FM
Balad	107.3 FM	Tal Afar	107.3 FM
Falujah	105.1 FM	Taqadum	107.3 FM
Kirkuk	107.3 FM	Taurit	100.1 FM

**Multi-National Corps - Iraq**  
presents



**The Black History Month Closing Luncheon**  
"Reaching Out to Youth: A Strategy for Excellence"  
Sports Oasis  
NFL Room  
February 20, 2006  
12:00 - 1:30 a.m.

POC for more information is SFC RUMPH at 822-5115  
Sponsored by  
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We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.

## DRIVE SAFELY !!

This driver was wearing his seat belt, driving within the speed limit and he was in his proper lane.



The driver of this vehicle had his life tragically altered by a reckless driver.

**Don't be the OTHER driver!!**

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